



# Hands on Habitat

## State of Maryland

### What Are the Problems?

- **Native oyster populations** 99% have been lost due to disease, harvesting, and an excess of nutrients that favors algae and plants over wildlife.
- **Submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) beds** By 2007, up to 50% of shorelines had been hardened in some Maryland watersheds.
- **Coastal wetlands** 70% have been lost or altered for development.

### Background

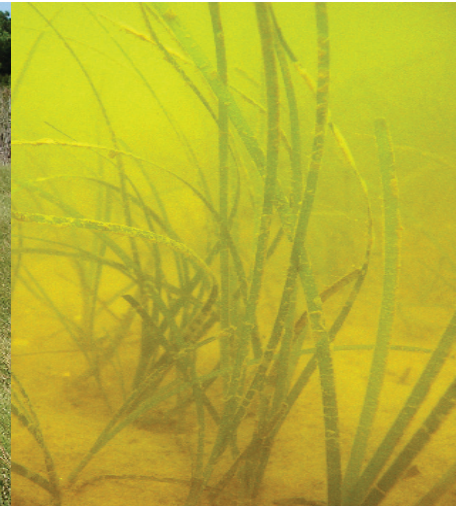
Maryland has thousands of acres of estuaries, coastal bays, rivers, and streams that provide productive and diverse habitats for finfish, shellfish, and other wildlife. Due to growing human pressures, the restoration needs in Maryland are greater than ever.

### What We Do

- Restore hardened or eroding shorelines with "living shorelines," which use natural habitat elements to protect shorelines from erosion while also providing critical habitat
- Improve fish passage by removing dams and fish blockages
- Restore tidal wetlands
- Rebuild the native oyster population
- Remove invasive species
- Educate communities about the value of healthy habitat and restoration

### How We Do It

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP) achieves science-based habitat restoration through community involvement and stewardship. We build powerful partnerships among Maryland's public, private, and non-profit organizations. Our projects continually demonstrate the effectiveness and benefits of locally based habitat conservation throughout Chesapeake Bay and coastal Maryland.



### Our Accomplishments

Since 1996, we have:

- Awarded more than \$3 million and leveraged roughly \$6 million
- Managed \$10.7 million in Congressionally directed funds
- Funded 86 projects
- Completed 68 projects
- Restored more than 1,100 acres
- Opened nearly 30 stream miles
- Engaged roughly 11,200 volunteers for 107,000 service hours through partner-led activities

### Our Partners

NOAA works with 144 local, private, and public partners in Maryland, including National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, FishAmerica Foundation, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Restore America's Estuaries, and Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment.

### Our Focus

**Conduct meaningful habitat restoration to encourage local stewardship of the Chesapeake Bay**

### Contact

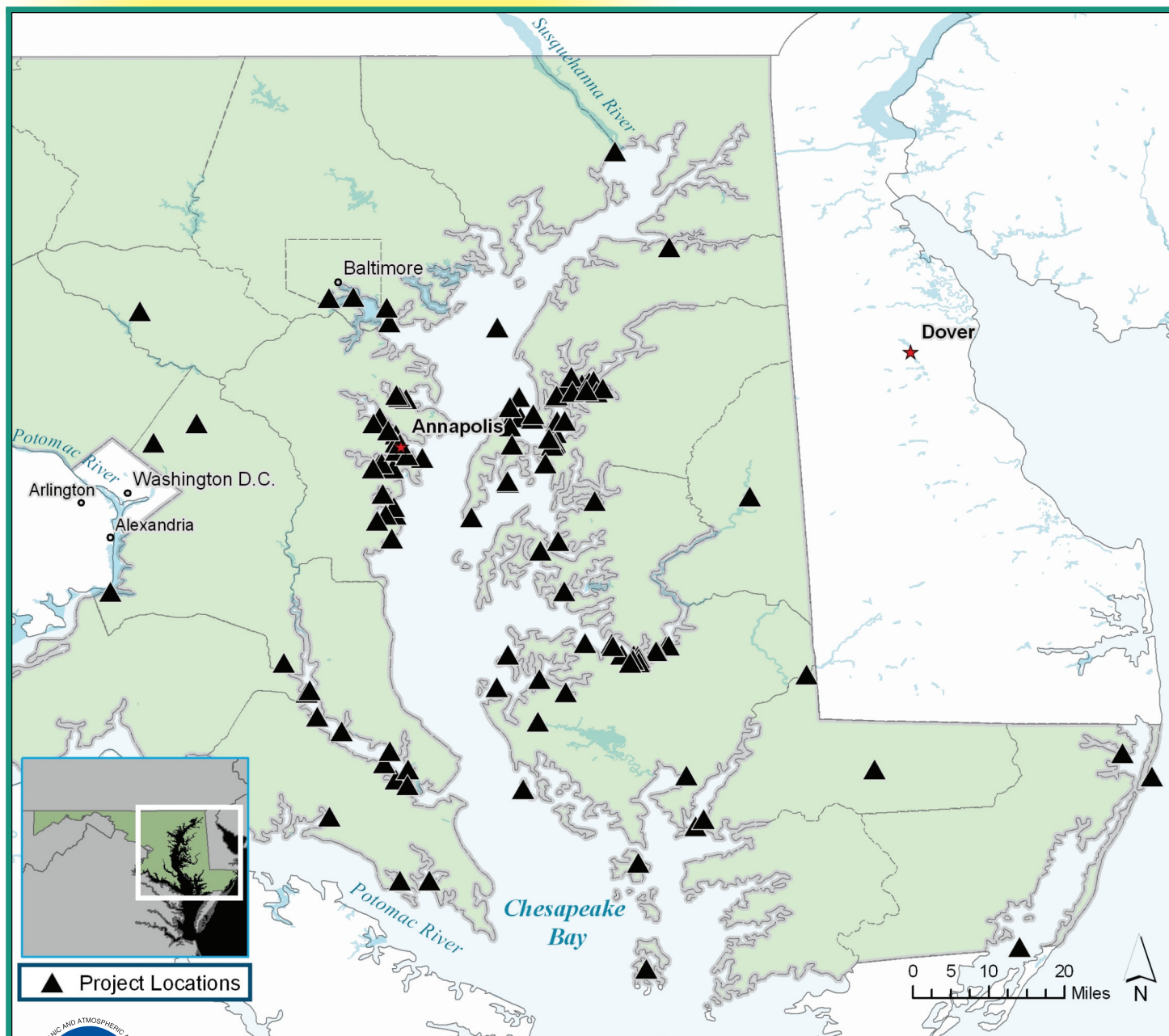
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[www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration/)

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# NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program (CRP)

## State of Maryland



## SELECT COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION PROJECTS:

**Amos Garrett Park  
Shoreline Restoration  
Project**

**Anacostia Floodplain  
Habitat Restoration**

**Chester River Wetlands  
Project**

**Eastern Neck Salt Marsh  
Restoration & Monitoring**

**Fort McHenry Wetlands  
Restoration**

**Octoraro Fish Passage**

**Oyster Gardening  
Program**

**San Domingo Creek  
Living Shorelines**

**St. Johns Living Shorelines  
Project**

**St. Mary's River SAV  
Restoration**

**Upper Bay Reef Sanctuary**

**West River Living Shorelines  
Project**